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State Department Facing New Challenges—Rapid Growth Creates Problems

Foreign Service Discontented With Authority of
Newcomers Under Kennedy Administration—
Role of Central Intelligence Agency Is Mentioned
by Dean Acheson—Some Troubles Are Old Ones.

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IN THE MEMORY of living men there was a time not many years ago when the entire personnel of the Department of State, together with foreign-service officers who happened to be around, could be assembled for a group photograph in front of the old State, War and Navy building. And the crowding was not conspicuous.

Today the State Department has 23,247 employees, of whom 2127 are foreign-service officers in Washington, 6325 foreign-service officers in the field, with the balance foreign nationals and civil service personnel at the clerk-typist-messenger level. Thirty years ago the annual budget of the department was \$14,000,000, half of which came in visa and passport fees.

The digestive pains accompanying a growth so large so fast—a reflection of the fantastic new responsibilities this country has taken on in recent years—help to explain the current unease over the State Department and its present masters. The attempt has already begun, as invariably happens in this politically conscious city, to find scapegoats on whom to shoulder the blame.

MANY of the troubles, individuals to one side, are those which plagued the previous Administration. Getting knowledgeable, properly equipped men able and willing to serve in difficult posts is one of them. It was illustrated with embarrassing clarity in the case of the Soviet satellite states. They have warned in articles and speeches that Soviet officials have not protested although for civilian and military purposes. Thus far the case of a nation's right to use outer space is not clear. They may provide a missile launching. They may provide a rocket to the earth and transmit a warning of a missile launching. Several Midas satellites could be launched to accompany a missile launching. Midas is reported getting good photo-eyes of cloud cover and is expected to aid in intelligence-gathering satellites will be able to give notice that the time is drawing near for Soviet missiles in their orbit. Midas and Midas III, which periodically

Navy, etc.—have three times the personnel of the State Department, and, career officers remark wryly, unlimited funds.

In a speech at a meeting of the Foreign Service Officers Association the other day, former Secretary of State Dean Acheson gave this the Acheson treatment. He spoke with the acid Acheson humor of "another agency" that had somehow to be brought under control. It was not so overwhelming the diplomatic agency. His listeners had no doubt that he meant that and only their gentlemanly restraint kept them from standing on their chairs and cheering.

The hunt for scapegoats is concentrated naturally on the newcomers at the top level. One target is Under Secretary of State Chester Bowles. He is a "liberal," he has talked in the past about the need to face up to the realities of Communist China and the dead-end of present China policy. That